

Appl. No. 10/017,068
Amdt. dated August 20, 2004
Reply to Office Action of February 23, 2004

PATENT


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5 were pending. All claims were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,957,919 to Laufer. While Applicants do not agree with the rejection, in order to expedite prosecution of the subject application, Applicants have cancelled claims 1 and 2 and amended independent claim 3 to be specifically directed at the protocol described in paragraph 19 in the application. As Laufer nowhere suggests the use of absorption atelectasis for collapsing a lung, Applicants believe that the claims as amended are in condition for allowance.

Applicants intend to file the present claims in a continuation of the present application.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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